Year	Number of villages without Post Offices
1994-95	18,828
1995-96	18,828
1996-97	18,807

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Targets for opening of post offices are allocated Postal Circle-wise under Annual Plans and finalised on year to year basis.

[Translation]

Night Landing Facilities at Ranchi Airport

2080. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether plane cannot land at Ranchi airport in the night;

(b) if so, the efforts made for providing take off and landing facilities at the night keeping in view of the demand therefor from the Air Force in this area; and

(c) if no such steps have been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes Sir. Due to cattle menace around the airport area, landing at Ranchi Airport during night is considered unsafe.

(b) Airports Authority of India has not received any request from the Air Force authorities for conducting night operations at Ranchi Airport.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Fire Incident in IGIA

2081. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR': Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted to enquire into the fire incident in terminal 1A building of the Indira Gandhi International Airport at New Delhi on October 30, 1996 has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the findings and recommendations of the committee; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to check recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Enquiry Committee has submitted its report on 16th December, 1996. The major findings of the Enquiry Committee are-

(1) It is difficult to establish the cause of the outbreak of fire above the false ceiling since the entire structure has been consumed in the fire.

(2) The loss assessed is to the tune of Rs. 15.50 crores exclusive of indirect loss in terms of loss of business, revenue and operational inconvenience.

(3) Negligence has not been attributed to any one.

(c) Action has been initiated to review and streamline the fire fighting and associated systems at all airports to take preventive action to guard against such fire incidents.

[Translation]

Linking of Khajuraho with Rail Network

2082. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to link world wide known tourist place Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh with railway network;

(b) if so, the time by which this facility is likely to be provided; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This work has been included in the Budget, 1997-98. Construction work will be taken up, once the necessary clearances have been obtained and would be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

(c) Does not airse.

[English]

Hotels Under ITDC

2083. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the number of hotels under India Tourism Developmsnt Corporation (ITDC) alongwith their locations?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Presently, ITDC is operating 33 hotels comprising of 26 its own hotels, 6 joint ventures and 1 managed property. Locationwise details of these hotels are given in the statement attached.